

Celebrity Buzz

Simpson mourning beloved pooch

pg 22



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NSCC staff vote in support of strike

PHILIP CROUCHER
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A strike is looming at the Nova Scotia Community College.

In electronic balloting held across the province yesterday, 93 per cent of faculty members and 90 per cent of support staff voted in favour of strike action, which would cause classroom disruptions to 26,000 students enrolled across 13 NSCC campuses.

"Members of the two Community College bargaining units have sent a strong message to the Department of Education," Nova Scotia Teachers Union president Alexis Allen said in a release last night.

The union represents more than 760 faculty members and 165 professional support staff members who have been without a contract since Aug. 31, 2008. Over 90 per cent of workers voted and can now take legal strike action by giving 48 hour notice to the minister of Labour and Workforce Development.

Union spokeswoman Angela Murray said last night a timeframe hasn't been established to when a strike notice might be given.

News on the Move

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On the web

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Skate park



Don't look down

Phil Linton completes a downside tailwhip at the Halifax Common Skatepark yesterday. Linton was one of many people out enjoying the warm weather that came on the first day of fall.

City fights the funk

Recovery plan for failed sewage plant set in motion

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE
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"It's a nice city, but it smells."

That's the impression Halifax tourists were likely left with this summer, Coun. Linda Mosher (Purcell's Cove-Armdale) said yesterday, but if the recovery plan for the city's sewage plant unfolds as planned, visitors should leave with more pleasant memories next summer.

Halifax Water officials told city council last night they've reached "a signifi-

cant milestone in recovery efforts" for the wastewater treatment facility that broke down earlier this year, with five refurbished pumps and other equipment in place and sewage to soon be sent through the system in phases.

"If things go well with the wet commissioning that we're doing this week — in other words introducing fresh water, into the plant and making sure the pumps are all working before we open the gates — we could introduce sewage as early as next week," general manager Carl Yates

Standing ovation

Many councillors stood up last night to applaud the efforts of city staff to address the well-publicized sewage plant problem.

told reporters after last night's council meeting.

Yates said there may be some additional stench as wastewater starts to flow through the plant again, but emphasized that will quickly dissipate.

The five sewage pumps are only for short-term use, he said. They'll be re-

placed by new pumps coming from Germany at a cost of \$2 million.

"We're looking for long-term performance of the pumps," he said. Other improvements include replacing control panels and sensors in the wet well and moving them to street level and staffing the plant 24 hours a day, a decision Yates said was made before January's malfunction.

The philosophy behind design changes, he said, is essentially the question: "What would you do if sewage came up in this wet well again?"

Brand-new government, same antics in legislature

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The more things change, the more they remain the same.

Yesterday marked the first question period of the new NDP government. Premier Darrell Dexter mused about how this was a fresh start and parties would hopefully work together in co-operation.

That lasted about eight seconds. From the first question by Liberal Leader Stephen McNeil the heckling and jeering from both sides of the legislature was as raucous as ever.

Members can still expect to be mocked if they mispeak — as Dexter was when he began an answer with "Thank you Mr. Premier" instead of "Mr. Speaker." Opposition members helpfully reminded Dexter who he was.

Opposition parties sarcastically chanted "It's free! It's free!" in response to the NDP answer that early funding to universities wouldn't cost taxpayers. Finance Minister Graham Steele coyly shot back he was looking forward to many more questions from the new-to-opposition Tories.

Both Dexter and Opposition Leader McNeil said they thought members handled themselves well, but to some extent it was back to business as usual.

"There is a dynamic to question period that is undeniable," Dexter said. "It is part policy, part theatre."



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Local



Stone Temple Pilots to rock HRM

The Stone Temple Pilots are coming to Halifax to perform at the Metro Centre on Nov. 24 at 8 p.m. With a Grammy Award and 15 singles on the Billboard Top 10 highlighting their resume, the Stone Temple Pilots have been a dominant force on the rock music scene for almost two decades. It will be their first-ever trip to Halifax, with tickets going on sale Friday at 9 a.m. at a cost \$59.50, plus service charges. Tickets are available at any Ticket Atlantic Box Office, by phone at 451-1221 or online to ticketatlantic.com.

METRO HALIFAX



RCMP raid leads to drug charges

CRIME Six people are facing charges after RCMP say they seized marijuana and firearms from three residences in Beaverbrook, Colchester Co. Monday night.

A police release said the searches seized in total 170 marijuana plants, three rifles, one shotgun and a .22 revolver handgun. Females aged 52, 35 and 17 and males aged 21 and 17 are all facing drug and trafficking charges as police allege the three residences searched belong to an organized group that was making and selling drugs.

Another 36-year-old man is facing weapon and drug related charges.

METRO HALIFAX

News in brief

FIRE A discarded cigarette butt is believed to be behind a small fire on the outside of O'Carroll's Restaurant and Irish Pub in downtown Halifax yesterday afternoon. Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency say the fire was put out quickly.

DALHOUSIE A small fire occurred at an administration building at Dalhousie University yesterday on Morris Street. Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency spokesperson Capt. Dave Meldrum said there was a fire in a small sawdust bag that resulted in smoke coming out the roof and attic.

METRO HALIFAX



Video Stephen Harper arrives in New York to kick off a series of meetings on trade and climate at metronews.ca/canada

Blogs It's Called Football welcomes CBC's Jason de Vos to discuss Toronto FC's form on the road



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Ross heading ER review

Halifax doctor who called Code Orange met with high praise

PAUL MCLEOD
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The man charged with figuring out how to solve Nova Scotia's ER crisis is a familiar face.

Dr. John Ross made headlines this past winter at the QEII Health Sciences Centre in Halifax when he controversially called a Code Orange, which is usually reserved for major emergencies like a plane crash.

The former head of the QEII emergency department decided the ER was so overcrowded drastic measures had to be taken.

The move didn't sit well with some in the Capital District Health Authority but opposition parties championed the event as a sign the health-care system is broken.

Now Ross will play a central role in making things better.

During the election campaign the NDP promised to solve the over-growing problem of rural ER closures.

They said they'd hire an adviser to find solutions to fixing the system. Ross was named that adviser yesterday.

"What you do when there's a long-term persistent, systemic problem is you seek expertise," said Ed-



Dr. John Ross

ucation Minister Maureen MacDonald.

"We could not find, in my view, a better adviser than someone who has front line experience, that is passionate about high quality emergency room care."

Ross will make \$100,000 to make a review over the next year.

Both opposition parties praised Ross as a qualified candidate who has been

outspoken about health issues.

But they accused the government of downloading their responsibility onto Ross and waiting a year before taking action.

"We've had a lot of studies already done," said Liberal MLA Diana Whalen. "I'm not sure we need a full year to study this problem again."

Conservative leader and former Health Minister Karen Casey said her government had already worked out many solutions



Health Minister Maureen MacDonald, left, and Premier Darrell Dexter lean across to speak to each other around Finance Minister Graham Steele at the provincial legislature yesterday. The NDP has hired Dr. John Ross to find solutions to the over-growing problem of rural ER closures.

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that should not be delayed.

"I believe that Dr. Ross will provide some very valuable information, but I'm not sure that Nova Scotians are prepared to wait," she said.

Bowater Mersey Paper gets \$2.5M

FUNDING Bowater Mersey Paper Co. Ltd. is getting \$2.5 million in funding from the Nova Scotia government to help it begin making book-grade paper. Book-grade paper, used mainly in paperback books, requires more demanding standards than those for newsprint.

The funding will be used to help the mill near Liverpool make modifications necessary to begin producing the paper.

The book-grade paper market tends to have more stable demand and pricing.

Bowater Mersey has about 500 full-time employees at its newsprint mill, sawmill and other operations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fall to be warmer, drier: Expert

WEATHER It looks like this could be a fall to remember weather wise in the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Environment Canada meteorologist Bob Robichaud said yesterday the weather models for the next three months show above normal temperatures for our region, and below normal levels of precipitation.

"So a little bit warmer than the long-term average and a little bit drier ... for fall."

Bob Robichaud
Environment Canada

"So a little bit warmer

than the long-term average and a little bit drier than the long-term average for the fall," Robichaud said.

The first day of fall was yesterday and it got off to a beautiful start in Halifax.

After morning fog patches, people were able to enjoy mostly sunny skies the rest of the day, with temperatures hovering in the low 20s.

METRO HALIFAX

Teen accused of Ricardo's Pizza theft in court

CRIME A 16-year-old male was to appear in Nova Scotia youth court yesterday after police say a break and enter took place at Ricardo's Pizza on Peggy's Cove Road Monday at 11 p.m.

Halifax RCMP say when they arrived to the pizza

shop several suspects fled the scene in a vehicle and were carrying cigarettes. Police say they later located the suspect's vehicle on Hubley Road and when they pulled the car over two males took off.

Police say a K-9 unit as-

sisted in the search of the suspects and one was tracked down to a house on St. Margarets Bay Road.

Police say the 16-year-old youth arrested is facing charges of possession of a stolen vehicle and break and enter.

METRO HALIFAX

Frivolous lawsuit bill being pushed

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COURT Judges will soon have more power to ban frivolous lawsuits in Nova Scotia.

A government bill will target people who continually file lawsuits without reasonable grounds in an attempt to harass another party. Judges will have increased power to level lawsuit restraining orders and order financial compensation.

"We are told individuals that want to harass or financially punish someone can do so by taking them through the courts process time and time again. The defendant must respond each time even though the claim has no merit," said Justice Minister Ross Landry.

The bill was originally floated last fall by the Tories but was sent back for more consultation. The NDP announced yesterday they were bringing it back without any modifications.

Landry said it's impossible to know exactly how much time and court resources are wasted by such lawsuits.

Seven other provinces and the Supreme Court of Canada have such legislation.

Suspects sought in cyclist assault

CRIME Two assailants ran away empty-handed Monday night after assaulting and trying to rob a bicyclist on Bayers Road in the city's west end, police say.

Officers responded to the incident on the road's 6700 block after Halifax Regional Police received a complaint of an attempted robbery.

The suspects, described to police as black men between the ages of 18 and 24, allegedly pushed another man off his bike and demanded he hand over cash. The victim sustained minor injuries, which were treated in hospital, and the two suspects took off toward Romans Avenue, police say.

METRO HALIFAX

Power outage forces high school to shut down

School was done early at Sir John A. Macdonald High School yesterday as a power outage forced the cancellation of classes around 10:30 a.m. School board spokesman Doug Hadley said the outage occurred at 7:40 a.m., and while power was shortly restored, it affected the school's mechanical system and water supply. **METRO HALIFAX**

Make parents responsible: Councillor

Blumenthal says solution to rise in vandalism is to make mom and dad accountable

PHILIP CROUCHER

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Jerry Blumenthal says it's time for parents to be held accountable if their kids are getting into trouble late at night and causing vandalism, with the councillor for Halifax North End going as far to suggest putting moms and dads behind bars.

"Make the parents responsible," Blumenthal

told Metro yesterday. "If they can't pay financially, then put them in jail."

"We have to do something," he added.

Blumenthal is upset after vandals torched one section of playground equipment at St. Stephen's Elementary School on Highland Avenue in his district over the weekend. The incident took place before 11 p.m. Saturday and resulted in about \$100,000 in damages to the

\$200,000 playground that was built last year. Insurance is expected to cover the cost to repair the damage.

Blumenthal believes a group of junior high schoolers are behind this incident, and says kids in that age bracket also vandalized tarps behind Highland Park the very night next.

These weekend inci-

dents have Blumenthal calling for a curfew on kids under 16 after 10 p.m. He's also host-

ing a community meeting Friday with Halifax MP Megan Leslie, Halifax Needham MLA Maureen MacDonald and representatives from Halifax Regional Police to talk about getting kids off the street late at night.

The meeting will take

place at St. Margaret of Scotland Church on Robie Street at 7 p.m.

"Maybe the three of us can come up with some type of program — making parents responsible," Blumenthal said.

"It's not (just) my area. It's a lot of areas," he added. "If you know me — I take these things very personally. Maybe it's my weakness in life, but that's it."

Halifax Regional Police

spokesman Const. Brian Palmer said yesterday they're in the early stages of their investigation into Saturday's incident, and said anyone who saw something around the area between 9 and 11 p.m. are asked to contact police.

He also emphasized any vandalism — big or small — needs to be reported to police so they can keep track of where it's happening and respond accordingly.



Jerry Blumenthal

Lovely way to kick off theatre season

PHILIP CROUCHER

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NEPTUNE George Pothitos expects to have a few more butterflies churning through his stomach for the kickoff to the new theatre season.

That's because after months of anticipation, Neptune Theatre's new artistic director is finally set to unveil the first of his nine shows for the 2009-10 campaign. What's more, none other than Pothitos himself is directing the season-opener — Marivaux's *The Game of Love and Chance*.

"It's a bit of an extra jitter and of course people are waiting to see what George is going to do," Pothitos said with a laugh from inside the popular downtown Halifax theatre yesterday.

"I hope they enjoy it. But it's a bit of an extra little scary moment, I guess."

Pothitos was named Neptune's new artistic director last October — replacing Ron Ulrich, who moved on to Theatre Aquarius in Hamilton —



Adrian Griffin (Harlequin) and Jody Stevens (Lisette) perform a scene yesterday from *The Game of Love and Chance*, which officially opens Friday as the kickoff production to the 2009-10 Neptune Theatre season.

but only now can the Argentinean native really put his stamp on stage.

The 2008-09 lineup was already set when he took over last fall, and Pothitos

still had to finish work at the Sudbury Theatre Centre, where he was the artistic director for nine years.

Pothitos took up full-

Show info

- The *Game of Love and Chance* officially opens Friday and will run through Oct. 18 in Neptune Theatre's Fountain Hall. Tickets range in price from \$15 to \$45 and are available by calling 429-7070 or online at neptunetheatre.com.

time residence in Halifax in June, and is excited about the season opener, which tells the story of a wealthy Parisian made-moiselle who dreads the prospects of an arranged marriage and trades identities with her maid prior to the first meeting with her fiancé.

"It's a comedy and it's joyous," he said of the play set in 18th century France. "So I wanted to begin my first season with joy and celebration."

The rest of the season includes plays such as *No Great Mischief*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Sexy Laundry*, award-winning *Rabbit Hole* and *Peter Pan*.

"We're going to fly through a season of a lot of interesting plays; varied plays," he said.

Council opts to send tax reform debate back to the public

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE

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WORKSHOPS Coun. Sue Uteck (Northwest Arm-South End) said yesterday moving the contentious tax reform debate from council chambers to an information workshop means "opening up the whole Pandora's Box again."

But that's exactly what the municipality's elected officials agreed to do after two hours of discussion yesterday, a decision Uteck said rewinds time to October 2006, when city council's tax reform committee first started studying how to create a more equitable system

for all residents.

City councillors not only voted to suspend formal tax reform debate, but also voted to disband the committee, which has recommended the municipality move away from an assessment system based on property taxes to one that better reflects the ability of residents to pay for the services they receive.

But Coun. Russell Walker (Fairview-Clayton Park) argued holding a workshop would not be "going back," but would instead allow city council to better look "at all the options" and move forward. "Hopefully, (we'll) come back with a consensus of what's best for HRM."

News in brief

CONTRACT An aboriginal company has won a \$3.1-million contract to operate and maintain a material processing facility for the Sydney tar ponds and coke ovens cleanup.

RETIRING Gammon Gold Inc.

announced yesterday its co-founder is retiring as president and chairman of the board and the international mining company's executive offices will be relocated to Toronto from Halifax.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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The Quebec coroner's office vehemently denies a report that it has concluded boxer Arturo Gatti committed suicide. It disputes suggestions that it agrees with the Brazilian authorities who believe the former champion hung himself. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Canada



Ex-minister pleads guilty

A former provincial cabinet minister pleaded guilty Tuesday for his role in Newfoundland and Labrador's spending scandal. Wally Andersen entered the plea in provincial court on charges of uttering a forgery and breach of trust, two years after he was implicated in a scandal that crossed party lines and rattled the province's political establishment. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Shoplifting incident ends with death

CRIME Winnipeg police are investigating a possible case of vigilante justice after a woman died following a shoplifting incident at a family-owned convenience store.

Police say Geraldine Beady was involved in a theft at the store Sept. 13 and was confronted by an employee. The 29-year-old woman was hit in the upper body with a weapon and fled to a nearby home,

said Const. Jason Michalyshe. She died five days later in hospital.

Police would not say what the stolen grocery item was, but a friend of the woman's says it was a can of luncheon meat.

An unnamed 61-year-old man has been arrested and faces charges of aggravated assault, Michalyshe said.

A family friend wants to see that charge upgraded.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Flu plan rethought

HEALTH In the face of concerns that swine flu may mount a fall surge, public health officials in Canada are rethinking pandemic and seasonal flu vaccination plans, with issues of timing and vaccine formulation back on the table, a variety of on- and off-the-record sources say.

The pros and cons of a number of scenarios are being hashed out, includ-

ing delaying, cutting back or cancelling the seasonal flu shot effort and maybe even rethinking the decision to use an adjuvant in the formulation of the pandemic vaccine.

The hope is to get a consensus, so that provinces and territories use the same strategy, officials in Quebec and Ontario have said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Genocide a threat: Report

Canada, U.S. urged to intervene to prevent far-reaching fallout

Canada and the United States should recognize that genocidal disasters such as Rwanda threaten their national interest and they should be prepared to act against such atrocities, says a new report.

While the United Nations has made much of its new "responsibility to protect" doctrine, the new report says what's now needed is "the will to intervene."

The first step to creating that will is the recognition that the fallout from humanitarian disasters can reach across oceans.

"The chaos resulting from these atrocities poses credible danger to Canadian and American national interests at home and abroad," the report says.

Frank Chalk, a Concordia University professor, recognized authority on genocide and co-director of

the project which produced the report, said the threats are obvious.

"Displacement and the creation of refugee flows denies people pure water, inoculation, vaccination, treatment, etc., and creates a vast Petri dish for the development of future pandemics and infectious disease," he said.

In a world linked by jets, contagion can leap halfway around the world

in hours. "There's also the threat of terrorism arising from these events," he added.

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Lobster fishermen directed to sex line

MARITIMES Maritime lobster fishermen in need of financial help got a lift of another kind Tuesday when they were directed to a toll-free number that was supposed to detail an aid package but connected them to a lusty sex line instead. That offers fishermen nary a detail on the lobster stimulus package.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto Rocking out with the Rockettes



Max Mortimer and Kyle Drinkwater, both 9, get in step with The Rockettes Jocelyne Levesque, left, Julie Tomaino, Laura Danelski and Kristin Jantzie at Sick Kids Hospital in Toronto yesterday. The iconic dancers will perform in the Radio City Christmas Spectacular from Nov. 16 to 18 in that city as part of a tour across Canada.

PM touts integrated climate-change plan

POLITICS Prime Minister Stephen Harper says Canada needs to take an integrated approach to the climate-change issue with the United States as a major partner.

Harper is back in the Big Apple to kick off a string of international meetings focusing on climate change, trade relations and the economy.

The prime minister will attend a dinner on climate change hosted by Ban Ki-moon, secretary general of the United Nations, as part of a high-level UN climate summit also taking place in the city.

He says Canada's proximity and economic links to the U.S. demand a similar, integrated approach to climate change.

Harper was one of about 25 world leaders invited to the dinner to discuss environmental issues in the hopes of finding common ground before countries meet in Copenhagen in December to sign a new global climate change treaty.

Earlier in the day, Harp-

G20 on deck

• Harper will also attend the Group of 20 leaders' summit at the end of the week in Pittsburgh, where leaders will attempt to agree on how much money rich nations should give developing countries to cut their greenhouse gases.

er met briefly with New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg in what senior government officials described as a "courtesy call" to discuss Canadian trade with the city and state.

"Our position is very clear: we want to see a new effective international accord, one that includes all the major emitters of greenhouse gases, and of course we're working very closely with the Obama administration on a truly continental approach," Harper said.

Critics have accused the Conservative government of stalling on climate-change efforts.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Firefighters hurt battling Winnipeg blaze

Three firefighters were injured fighting a blaze at a four-storey Winnipeg warehouse. Fire broke out as tar was applied to the roof. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

canada 5

Montreal No cars, but tai chi traffic's heavy



Members of the Taoiste Tai Chi Society practise in the middle of Montreal's Ste-Catherine Street during Car Free Day yesterday.

'I'm already dead'

Exec in giant fraud apologizes to his victims

The author of a \$100-million white-collar scam has sent a letter to his 9,200 victims, declaring himself "already dead."

Vincent Lacroix shocked a courtroom this week by pleading guilty to 200 fraud-related charges — a sudden about-face after the trust-fund manager spent years insisting he was innocent.

As he began what could be a lengthy prison stay,

the former head of Norbourg sent a two-page letter to the TVA network bluntly fessing up.

He said he was devastated by the harm he caused. "I was a megalomaniac and completely hypnotized," said a copy of the letter on TVA's website.

"I'm asking you once again for forgiveness 9,200 times over, but I understand your anger and your frustration." He ended his

letter on a personal note. "My children do not want to be seen in public with me," Lacroix wrote. "I am a dead man."

"As I told a man who wanted to make me pay for the Norbourg scandal, you can hit me but you can't kill me. I'm already dead."

Arguments to set the length of his sentence began Friday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

He phones from a place with no area codes ...

SPACE When Brenda Biasutti gets a phone call from her husband it's a long, long, long-distance call.

Biasutti, 51, is the wife of Canadian astronaut Bob Thirsk, who has set a new Canadian longevity record in outer space by remaining on the International Space Station since May.

Thirsk took a host of cellphone numbers into space.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

SHIPS The redesign of the navy's new generation of supply ships is completed, but it will be next year before the Tory government is ready to talk to industry about building them. Navy head Vice-Admiral Dean McFadden says he's waiting on cost approval from the defence minister.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Twitter is officially the talk of the town as a two-day conference dedicated to the micro-blogging site gets underway in Los Angeles. Pro skater Tony Hawk, San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom, actors Tyrese Gibson and Greg Grunberg and addiction specialist Dr. Drew Pinsky are set to talk Twitter. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

World

Women crucial to economy: Report

Lack of education for girls hampers their earning potential, costing the world's poorest countries billions of dollars a year in lost revenue, says a report released yesterday in Toronto, according to CBC News Online. "Study after study confirms that if young women are economically active, their country's economy grows and all members of their family benefit," said Rosemary McCarney, president and CEO of the Canadian arm of Plan International, which released the report.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Death toll rises to 9 in southern U.S. floods

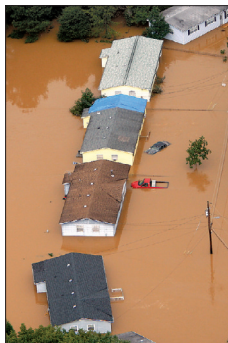
Neighbourhoods, schools and even roller coasters were awash in deep murky, brown water yesterday, and officials found a ninth storm victim who had been swept away from her car a day earlier.

Georgia officials warned worried residents to wait for the floodwaters to recede before checking out their damaged homes, and in Tennessee, a retirement centre was evacuated.

Torrential Southeast rains soaked the region for days, knocking motorists from cars and splitting at least one mobile home.

A Tennessee man who jumped in the floodwaters was still missing.

Washed-out roads and flooded freeways around



Flooded homes are shown in Mableton, Georgia, yesterday.

tre were evacuated by boats and trucks and others were ferried from low-lying neighbourhoods and motels in a Chattanooga suburb as two nearby creeks continued to rise.

Georgia emergency officials said they were confident those in immediate danger had been evacuated, but were concerned about residents attempting to return to their homes too soon.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Teacher caught on video beating student

THAILAND A teacher was captured on film beating a 14-year-old student and bashing his head against a blackboard, sparking national outrage and pledges yesterday from education officials to crack down on corporal punishment in classrooms.

The 50-second clip, filmed by a classmate using a mobile phone, was broadcast on a nationally televised morning news program.

"Are you really going to

stop!" the male teacher shouted at the student, gripping the boy's neck in a choke hold and whacking his head repeatedly.

"I won't do it anymore," the boy screamed after the teacher slammed his head at least four times against the blackboard as his classmates watched, occasionally giggling.

The beating occurred Sept. 9 at a private Thai-Chinese bilingual secondary

school in Bangkok.

The teacher, 29-year-old Weerapong Pongchanoh, expressed tempered remorse at being "too violent for the public to accept."

"I feel terrible for what I did to my student," said the teacher, contacted on his cellphone. "But I knew what I was doing. I did not use excessive force to hurt him. Otherwise he would have started bleeding."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

France bulldozes camp

IMMIGRATION French police razed a squalid camp used by illegal immigrants in scrubland near the English Channel port of Calais yesterday, using backhoes and buzz saws to clear away the precarious dwellings of a fragile population, mostly Afghan minors, who were led away stunned and sometimes sobbing. The destruction of the site — known as "the Jungle" — ends the migrants' dreams of a new life across the Channel in Britain but signifies what France hopes will be a new era in European immigration control. People who lived there tried night after night to sneak across the Channel.

Police scuffled with humanitarian volunteers who have long helped the immigrants, but no injuries were reported.

Up to 800 illegal immigrants camped near the port and in smaller "jungles" around Calais until months ago.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pittsburgh G20 draws protesters



AIDS activists demonstrate in Pittsburgh yesterday prior to the start of the G20 summit of developed and developing nations. The two-day summit starts tomorrow.

Possible terror plot uncovered

THREAT The U.S. government expanded a terrorism warning from transit systems to stadiums, hotels and entertainment complexes as investigators searched for more suspects in a possible al-Qaida plot to set off hydrogen-peroxide bombs hidden in backpacks. The warnings come amid an investigation centring on Najibullah Zazi, who authorities say received al-Qaida explosives training and was found entering New York two weeks ago with bomb-making instructions. Some Americans were blasé

"If it happens, it happens ... You can't just go and hide out in Canada for a month."

Lynn Calhoun

about the latest warnings. "If it happens, it happens," said Lynn Calhoun, an Indianapolis computer programmer. "Where are you going to go? You can't just go and hide out in Canada for a month."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Peace talks restart unlikely

MIDDLE EAST The Israeli and Palestinian leaders shook hands at the start of their first face-to-face meeting yesterday, hosted by U.S. President Barack Obama, but the small gesture was unlikely to translate into a quick resumption of peace talks. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas remain far apart on key issues, including Israeli settlement expansion and the agenda of talks.

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EU fails to ban bluefin tuna fishing

A sharply divided European Union failed yesterday to protect the threatened bluefin tuna, as the bloc's Mediterranean countries refused to back even a temporary ban on catching the fish prized by sushi aficionados. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Security forces break up Honduran protest

Baton-wielding soldiers used tear gas and water cannons to chase away thousands who demonstrated outside the Brazilian Embassy yesterday, leaving deposed President Manuel Zelaya and 70 friends and relatives trapped inside without water, electricity or phones.

"We know we are in danger," Zelaya said during interviews with various media outlets. "We are ready to risk everything, to sacrifice."

Heavily armed soldiers stood guard on neighbouring rooftops and helicopters buzzed overhead. Zelaya, forced out of his

country at gunpoint on June 28, triumphantly popped up in the capital Monday, telling captivated supporters that after three months of international exile and a secretive 15-hour cross-country journey, he was ready to lead again.

Interim President Roberto Micheletti's response was terse, pressing Brazil to hand him over under a warrant issued by the Supreme Court charging treason and abuse of authority.

Police and soldiers set up a ring of security in a five-kilometre perimeter around the embassy.

Security Ministry spokesman Orlin Cerrato



A supporter of Honduras' ousted President Manuel Zelaya clashes with riot police in front of the Brazilian Embassy in Tegucigalpa yesterday.

told The Associated Press that two policemen had been beaten and 174 people were being held on charges of disorderly conduct and vandalism.

A 26-hour curfew imposed Monday afternoon closed businesses and schools, leaving the capital's streets nearly deserted. All the nation's international airports and border posts were closed and roadblocks set up to keep Zelaya supporters from massing for protests. Yesterday evening the government announced the curfew was being extended 12 more hours, until 6 a.m. today.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cash for cops, media found in drug raid

BUST Soldiers raiding a drug gang safehouse in northern Mexico found money-stuffed envelopes earmarked for various police forces and one marked for "press," authorities said yesterday.

Four people were arrested and \$5 million in U.S. and Mexican currency was seized during the raid Monday in the industrial city of Monterrey, according to an army statement. Soldiers, acting on an anonymous tip, also seized drugs, money counting machines, cellphones and five vehicles.

Monterrey and the surrounding state of Nuevo Leon, which borders Texas, have been a focus of the federal government's crackdown on police corruption.

The cash and seized items were displayed at military barracks north of the city, with dozens of white envelopes containing some of the cash arranged in rows on a table.

Envelopes at the front of the rows had yellow post-it notes with the names of police precincts in Monterrey and other municipal forces in Nuevo Leon state. One was labelled "press."

Army officials refused to say more about what the money was intended for, declining to comment beyond the statement.

In June, nearly 80 police officers suspected of working with drug smugglers were arrested in 18 towns across Nuevo Leon after soldiers found lists of police names in the possession of traffickers.

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No compensation for woman wrongly convicted of kidnapping: Authorities

APPEAL Mexican authorities said yesterday there would be no compensation for an Indian market vendor who was wrongfully convicted of kidnapping and spent three years in prison in a case that provoked an international protest.

Jacinta Francisco Marcial was released last week after prosecutors decided not to contest an appeal of her 21-year sentence. Lon-

don-based rights group Amnesty International demanded that she be compensated for the time spent locked up.

The Attorney General's Office said in a statement that she would not be compensated because prosecutors never proclaimed her innocence, deciding only that there was "reasonable doubt" in her conviction.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Recession Wedding downturn



Kian Lee and his bride, Maya Ong, both from Queens, pose for a photo after their wedding ceremony at the Manhattan Marriage Bureau in New York. A broad array of U.S. census data indicates that the recession is profoundly disrupting American life. Nearly one in three Americans 15 and over reported they had never been married, the highest level in a decade.

U.S. officials seek stronger laws on justifying terror surveillance

PRIVACY The Obama administration promised Congress yesterday to negotiate stronger privacy protections for Americans under terrorism surveillance, but insisted on retaining current authority to track suspects and obtain records.

Liberals on the House Judiciary Committee were left unsatisfied, clearly wanting the administration to go further and pledge to curb what they consider abuses of the Bush administration.

They repeatedly insisted that the law be rewritten to require better justification for wiretaps and subpoenas, and committee chairman John Conyers, a Democrat, even compared the Obama administration's position so far to that of the Bush administration.

"You sound like a lot of people who came over from DOJ (the Department of Justice) before," Conyers told Todd Hinnen, deputy assis-

Patriot Act

Three provisions of the Patriot Act are expiring. They provide:

- Roving, court-approved wiretaps that allow surveillance on multiple phones. Law enforcement is not required to ascertain that a suspected foreign terrorist is actually using the phones being tapped.
- That businesses produce "any tangible things" at the FBI's request.
- Authority to conduct surveillance against a so-called "lone wolf," a non-U.S. citizen engaged in terrorism who may not be part of a recognized terrorist group.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

tant attorney general.

Congress is starting to consider changes in three expiring provisions of the USA Patriot Act, a counterterrorism law initially

passed after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

These three provisions require the government to seek permission from a special foreign surveillance court for subpoenas and surveillance. The Bush administration, while using the court, also had the National Security Agency — without warrants — eavesdrop on Americans and others inside the United States to search for terrorist activity. That program ended before Bush left office.

Hinnen told a Judiciary subcommittee, "We are ready and willing to work with members on any specific proposals" that would provide "effective investigative authorities and protects privacy and civil liberties."

Conservative lawmakers want to reauthorize the expiring provisions without changes, insisting the statute helped prevent attacks. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

News in brief

TRAVOLTA Prosecutors said yesterday a paramedic who treated John Travolta's son shortly before he died in the Bahamas threatened to release private information unless the movie star paid \$25 million.

Travolta is among those expected to take the stand during the trial, but he did not appear in the courtroom during the first day of testimony in the island chain off the Florida coast. Ambulance driver Tarino

Lightbourne and former Bahamas senator Pleasant Bridgewater, a co-defendant, have pleaded innocent to extortion charges.

SHOOTING Four people were injured in a gun battle yester-

day involving an attempt to smuggle illegal immigrants from Mexico at the busiest border crossing in the U.S., authorities said. More than 70 people travelling in three vans involved in the incident were

in federal custody, said U.S. Customs and Border Protection spokeswoman Angelica DeCima. Van drivers tried to storm past inspectors at the San Ysidro port of entry she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Comment & Views

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Comment

May hopes third time is a charm

TheWestView

Paul Sullivan

metronews.ca/thewestview

If there is a federal election this fall — and like the outlook for snow and below-freezing temperatures, the probability is high — one of the most interesting races will be in one of Canada's warmest, if not hottest, spots.

The federal riding of Saanich-Gulf Islands is in Canada's banana belt: The

average January temperatures in Sidney, on Vancouver Island, 26 kilometres from downtown Victoria, both highs and lows, are above freezing. It's a nice place to come in from the cold, so you can see the attraction for Elizabeth May, the Green party leader who has struck out cold in two previous attempts to get elected to Parliament.

Three strikes and you're out usually holds in politics as well as baseball, but May has read the organic, herbal tea leaves and argues that a Green party candidate is more likely to get elected in Saanich-Gulf Islands than anywhere else.

At first blush, it makes sense. The riding includes that ultimate eco-hippie enclave, Salt Spring Island, not to mention Pender, Saturna, and Galiano, Gulf Islands, that have an exotic, almost mystical resonance to people living in Ajax or North Battleford.

Yet does May really understand what's she getting into? She recently rented a house in Sidney, so the evidence indicates

she's been there, but as she walks down the main street, she can be forgiven for having misgivings.

For right in the middle of the "downtown" strip is planted the very permanent constituency office of Gary Lunn, the federal minister of state for sport. Conserva-

tive Lunn has been electable money in the bank since 1997, while the Liberals, the Greens and the NDP have split the centre, left and the environment vote into various fragments. As in the last election, the Liberals have recruited an environmentalist, University of Victoria climate change researcher Renée Hetherington, to muddy, if not foul, the waters.

And Sidney is the retirement capital of the retirement capital of Canada. Of the 11,000 people who live there, more than 35 per cent of

them are older than 65 — 63 per cent are 45-plus. Sidney boasts six retirement homes, five cemeteries ... and one rec centre. These people aren't big on change and that nice Gary Lunn will do just fine. One point in May's favour — they're all from somewhere else, too, so the charge that she's a democracy-busting parachute candidate won't work against her the way it did in Central Nova, scene of her last defeat.

I just hope she knows how to pour tea, lots of tea.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting: vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Elizabeth May

Word on the street: Do movies have the power to sway opinion on hot-button topics?

Sarah McKenzie
age 28, Halifax

A: Maybe documentary films — if you don't know too much about a subject and you have a certain opinion — a documentary film could change your opinion.

Yves-Michel Thibeault
age 30, Campbellton, N.B.

A: It depends on what movie you watch. A documentary maybe — a Michael Moore film would be an example.

Samantha Delaney
age 20, Halifax

A: I'm always skeptical, it won't sway me all the way. I realize you have to do a lot more research to actually find out (about the issue).

Ali Al-Rewashdy
age 22, Ottawa

A: It depends how educated you are. I know a lot of people who will watch a movie and treat it as fact.

Brandy Milne
age 32, Kitsilano, B.C.

A: Movies can definitely change minds — they show different opinions and just puts them out there.

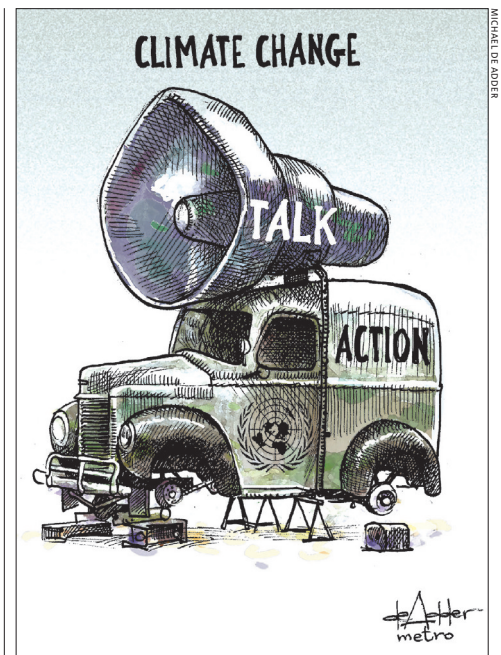
Randy Ai
age 24, Toronto

A: When they become really popular they can take an issue ... and bring it to the forefront of public education because it creates buzz ... It gets people talking.



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GM to add shifts at U.S. factories in 2010

General Motors says it will add a third shift to its Fairfax plant in Kansas City in January, followed in April by third shifts at factories in Delta Township, Mich., and Fort Wayne, Ind. The company says about 2,400 workers will be recalled at the three plants because of production increases. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**


9

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Retailers score points with recession weary

Some of Canada's major retailers say the second half of the year is shaping up to be a positive one, and those companies that focus on promotions and lower price points are well positioned to take advantage of recession-weary consumers.

Jürgen Schreiber, CEO of Shoppers Drug Mart Corp., said yesterday the drug store chain has taken advantage of its Optimum rewards program to lure price-conscious customers during the economic downturn.

"Customers love Optimum, and in a recession they love it even more," Schreiber said yesterday at a Scotia Capital conference on consumer trends.

Shoppers has increased the number of active Optimum cardholders by two million to 9.7 million over the last two years, and 65 per cent of in-store transactions are now done using the card, he said.

Meanwhile, consumer product manufacturer Dorel Industries Inc. said the company's main prod-

ucts, which include child car seats, home furniture and bicycles, have proven resilient in the economic downturn.

"Our price points fit the times," said Dorel chief executive Martin Schwartz, speaking at the same conference.

The conference came as Statistic Canada reported yesterday announced the value of retail sales fell 0.6 per cent during July.

The data suggest that it may take some time before nervous Canadian consumers start gaining enough confidence to begin opening up their wallets again, a critical move needed for the economy to get a badly needed kick-start after three quarters of recession.

Economists said the weak July retail numbers may reflect weakening pent-up demand for big ticket items, the impact of

continued job losses in the economy, and the fact that many retail products are selling for less because of increased competition and a drop-off in demand.

At Dorel, Schwartz said tight-fisted consumers are looking for bargains as they seek to stretch their hard-earned dollars in a weak economy. "Retailers are focusing more on what we term opening- to mid-price points as shoppers of every description are gravitating to the big-box outlets," Schwartz told the conference.

"Customers love Optimum, and in a recession they love it even more."
 CEO Jürgen Schreiber, Shoppers Drug Mart Corp.

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Energy Korea's green growth



A guide stands near a model of a future city, using digital technology to save energy and reduce cost, at the Experience Green Growth Center in Seoul, South Korea. President Lee Myung-bak sees a crisis coming for Asia's fourth-largest economy, one of the world's biggest greenhouse gas polluters, amid growing calls to curb global warming.

Business in brief

COMPUTERS The worldwide personal-computer market is pulling out of its slump quickly and could defy predictions by growing this year, Intel Corp. CEO Paul Otellini said yesterday. Otellini's comments at a conference yesterday were

more bullish than many analysts have been. Market research firms IDC and Gartner have both predicted a year-over-year decline in PC shipments in 2009, which would be the first such drop since 2001. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Facebook defriends Beacon

TECHNOLOGY Facebook is shutting down its much-maligned Beacon marketing program, launched nearly two years ago amid fanfare only to generate a storm of privacy complaints over the tracking of user activities at partner websites.

Facebook agreed to end Beacon and create a foundation to promote online privacy, safety and security as part of a \$9.5-million settlement in a lawsuit over the program. A federal judge in San Jose, Calif., still must approve the terms.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beacon program

- Facebook thought the Beacon marketing program would help users keep their friends better informed about their interests while also serving as "trusted referrals" that would help drive more sales to the participating sites. Sprinkled in with status updates and photos were alerts on what items their friends had bought or reviewed.

TransCanada to issue 12 million preferred shares

BUSINESS TransCanada Corp. has arranged a \$300-million syndicate financing to raise money for capital projects, to repay short-term debt and for other general corporate purposes.

Under the bought-deal financing, the Calgary-based pipeline and power plant operator will issue 12 million preferred shares at \$25 a share, the company said in a news release yesterday.

The syndicate of underwriters, led by Scotia Capital Inc. and RBC Capital Markets, has an option to purchase up to an additional two million of the series 1 preferred shares at any time up to 48 hours prior to the closing, expected to be on Sept. 30.

TransCanada shares were up 37 cents at \$33.60 at midday Tuesday on the TSX.

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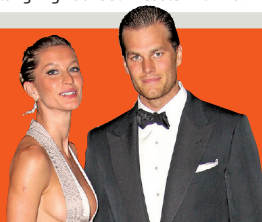
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Major League Baseball is opening a development centre in China. The centre for boys of middle school and high school age is to open today at Wuxi's Dongbeitang High School in eastern China. The centre will provide baseball training and English lessons. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

MLB goes to China

Sports



Bundchen, Brady sued

Two photographers filed suit yesterday against supermodel Gisele Bündchen and New England quarterback Tom Brady, left, for \$1 million, saying they were shot at in April during the couple's post-wedding party in Costa Rica. The photographers accuse Bündchen and Brady of negligently hiring security for the party. Agents for both Brady and Bündchen declined comment. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

Liverpool and Arsenal each reach last 16 of Carling Cup

SOCCER David Ngog fired Liverpool into the last 16 of the Carling Cup in a 1-0 victory at Leeds while Arsenal beat 10-man West Bromwich Albion 2-0 yesterday.

Ngog scored the only goal in the 66th minute at Elland Road after Liverpool struggled to take control against the League One side.

Arsenal also didn't break the deadlock until the 68th minute against League Championship leader West Brom at Emirates Stadium.

League One's Barnsley upset Premier League's Burnley 3-2, but Stoke hit back from two goals down

at home to Blackpool to beat the Championship side 4-3. Portsmouth fell behind after three minutes at Hartlepool only to win 3-1.

In a meeting of topflight clubs, Sunderland ousted Birmingham 2-0 with first-half goals by Jordan Henderson and Fraizer Campbell.

Blackburn won 1-0 at Nottingham Forest thanks to a first-half goal by Benni McCarthy.

Relegated from the topflight last season, Newcastle saw its chances of a trophy disappear with a 2-0 loss at Peterborough.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports in brief

CIS FOOTBALL The Saint Mary's Huskies climbed a spot to ninth in Canadian Interuniversity Sport football's latest ranking. The Huskies (1-1) check in at No. 9, two spots behind the St. Francis Xavier X-Men (2-0). Laval is No. 1.

AUS FOOTBALL Dan Schutte of the Saint Mary's Huskies was named Atlantic University Sport defensive player of the week yesterday. Huskies kicker Justin Palardy was named special teams player of the week.

AUS SOCCER Midfielder Kate

MacDonald of the Dalhousie Tigers was named Atlantic University Sport female athlete of the week yesterday. The fourth-year co-captain scored a pair of goals on the weekend.

AUS SOCCER The Dalhousie Tigers have risen into a tie for fourth with the York Lions in the latest Canadian Interuniversity Sport men's soccer rankings. Dal, the defending Atlantic champion, is 2-0-1. The Montreal Carabins are No. 1.

METRO HALIFAX

Kadri leads Leafs to win

NHL RESULT

Pittsburgh 2 Toronto 3 (SO)



The kid sure is stubborn.

Maple Leafs rookie Nazem Kadri tied the game late in the third before scoring the shootout winner last night as Toronto

beat the Pittsburgh Penguins 3-2.

Even though coach Ron Wilson has made it clear the first-rounder is a long-shot to crack his roster this season, Kadri continues to do everything he can to impress.

Viktor Stalberg also scored in regulation for Toronto (4-1-0).

Ryan Bayda and Chris Conner replied for the Penguins (1-2-2).

Pittsburgh was a mere 68 seconds away from winning the game in regulation time, but Kadri snuck in off the wing and buried a rebound over Penguins goalie John Curry to tie it 2-2. It was Kadri's second goal of the pre-season.

The Penguins elected to leave stars Sidney Crosby, Evgeni Malkin and Marc-Andre Fleury at home, dressing just five players

who appeared in Game 7 of the Stanley Cup final in the spring.

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Blue Jays Walkoff win



Toronto's Aaron Hill is congratulated by his teammates after he hit a walk off double to win the game against Baltimore last night in Toronto. The RBI was Hill's 100th of the season and the Blue Jays beat the Orioles by a score of 6-5.

Sports in brief

SENTENCED Former Super Bowl star Plaxico Burress was

sentenced yesterday to two years in prison after accidentally shooting himself in the thigh at a nightclub and later reaching a plea deal on weapons charges. Burress was indicted on two counts of weapon possession and one count of reckless endangerment and pleaded guilty Aug. 20. He had faced a minimum sentence of 3½ years on those charges if convicted at trial.

TENNIS Former No. 1 Justine Henin yesterday announced her return to competitive tennis for next year. Henin had been retired for just over a year, but at 27 she again has the fire and physical strength to compete for an eighth Grand Slam title.

DRUG POLICY NFL players have been warned the league's drug-testing program is still in effect despite commissioner Roger Goodell's ruling to delay suspending several players who tested positive for a banned substance. In a joint memo issued by the NFL and the NFL Players Association, players were reminded they will continue to be tested and "a positive test will generally result in a suspension."

BUFFALO The Bills have signed rookie tackle Jamon Meredith off Green Bay's practice squad to bolster their banged-up offensive line.

NHL Chicago Blackhawks right-winger Adam Burish will be out for six months after tearing the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee during a pre-season game against Minnesota on Sunday. The team's physician, Dr. Michael Terry, said Burish will soon undergo reconstructive knee surgery. He added the team expects Burish to make a complete recovery.

POLITICS Curt Schilling announced last night he won't run for Edward M. Kennedy's seat in the U.S. Senate.

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NBA, players disagree on referee replacements

BASKETBALL The NBA's president of basketball operations is confident replacement officials would perform well if they are needed when games begin.

The players aren't so sure.

The NBA and its referees union have failed to reach an agreement on a

new contract, so the league will begin training replacements this week. Without a new deal soon, those replacements would be used in games starting Oct. 1.

The officiating was criticized during the last lock-out in 1995, but Joel Litvin says it will be better this time because the re-

placements are from the WNBA and NBA Development League and familiar with the NBA program.

But Lakers guard Derek Fisher, president of the players' association, says the NBA's referees are the best in the world and not having them on the floor is "unacceptable."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada blanks Puerto Rico at Baseball World Cup

BASEBALL Brett Lawrie hit the go-ahead home run in the ninth inning and four Canadian pitchers combined on a one-hitter in a 3-0 win over Puerto Rico in third-round action yesterday at the Baseball World Cup.

Lawrie, of Burnaby, B.C., belted a solo homer to lead off the top of the ninth, giving Canada a 1-0 lead. Chris

Robinson of Dorchester, Ont., followed with a single and one out later, Adam Stern of London drew a walk. Rene Tosoni of Coquitlam, B.C., followed with a two-run double down the right-field line to give the Canadians (2-2) all the runs they would need.

Nick Buccini of Sarnia, Ont., tossed five hitless innings for Canada, allowing

just a pair of walks while striking out two.

"I can't say enough about our pitchers, they've done a great job," said Canadian manager Ernie Whitt. "I'm really proud of Buccini. Here is a young pitcher facing some really good international competition and you see him develop every game."

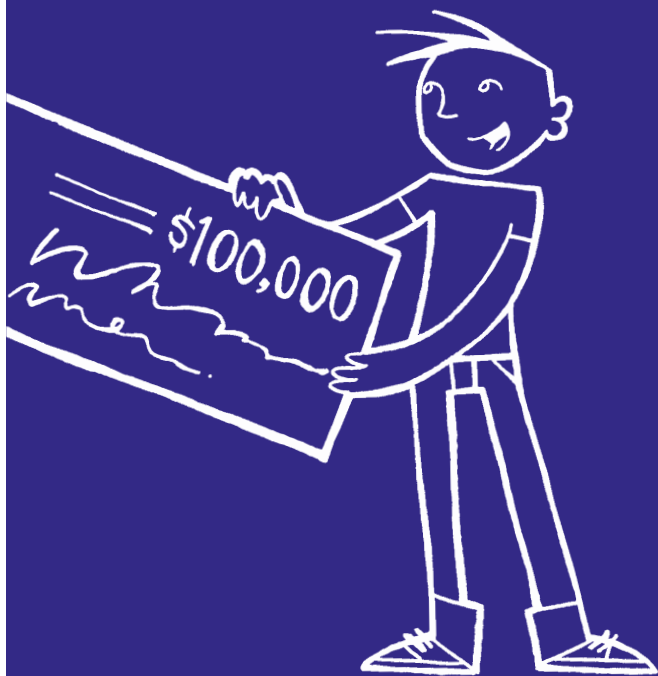
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A car fuelled by a blend of algae-based gasoline has completed a ten-day trip from San Francisco to New York City. The tour was sponsored by the Veggie Van Organization along with the support of algae-based renewable fuel company Sapphire Energy, and covered 6,035 kilometres. CANADIANDRIVER.COM

Metro Drive

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONews.CA

BlueZERO concept looks at city mobility

ELECTRIC VEHICLE The near-series Mercedes-Benz Concept BlueZERO E-Cell Plus electric car combines environmentally friendly electric mobility in the city with unrestricted suitability for long-distance driving.

This is made possible with the combination of the battery-electric drive and a combustion engine.

The range extender gives the BlueZERO E-Cell Plus a total range of up to 370 miles, with about 100 km



solely under electric power and thus free of local emissions.

The electric motor of the purely battery-powered BlueZERO is combined with an additional three-cylinder, turbocharged gas en-

gine. Putting out 50 kW, the compact combustion engine is installed in the area of the rear axle and can charge the battery while the car is being driven.

The long combined range makes the concept fully suitable for everyday use and assures that the customer will reach their destination even with a depleted battery. The car can be refuelled quickly and easily at any normal filling station. **FROM CARGUIDE**

Safety award winners

The 2010 Dodge Journey, Lincoln MKT (pictured) and Mazda3 have been named Top Safety Pick award winners by the U.S. Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS). To qualify for an award, a vehicle must earn a "good" rating in the Institute's tests, and be equipped with electronic stability control. CANADIANDRIVER.COM



The 2009 Mitsubishi Outlander offers a CUV with a range of engines, drivetrains and trim levels.



Outlander works

Compact SUV a standout in segment

JIM ROBINSON
for Metro Canada



When I drove the second generation Outlander back in 2007, I noted Mitsubishi officials were calling it, and the Lancer, the most important cars in the company's short Canadian history.

When Mitsubishi arrived here seven years ago, it did so with a collection of vehicles that were lagging behind the curve.

The Outlander and Lancer set the tone for vastly different lineups of vehicles that have now arrived like the Eclipse Coupe and Spyder, the Ralliarts, the Sportback and the mighty EVO GSR and MR.

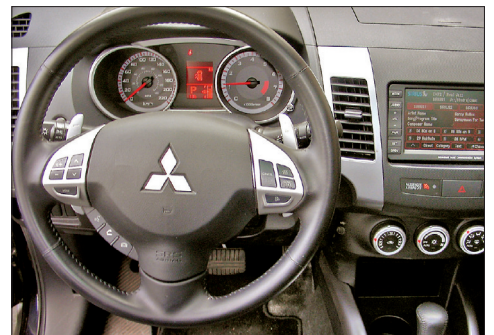
Along with new dealerships and new wares, Mitsubishi hoped Canadians would take a second look and it seems to be working.

The 2009 Outlander is longer, wider and taller than the previous generation primarily to offer five- or seven-passenger seating.

Seven-seat models have a standard under-floor stowage compartment and a compact third row seat that folds flat into the floor when not needed. Five-seat models also feature an under-floor storage bin. The second-row seat has 60/40 split fold-and-tumble seat backs that expand cargo capacity.

The second-row 60/40 seats fold independently and offer a 3.15-in. fore/aft slide range to optimize passenger room or cargo room.

When it bowed as a 2007 model, the Outlander was fitted with a 3.0-litre V6 but



The interior of the Outlander XLS feels more like a German sports sedan with charcoal leather and metal accents.

2009 Mitsubishi Outlander

Type: Compact SUV

Price: from \$24,998

Engine: 2.4-litre SOHC inline four-cylinder (168 hp, 167 lb/ft); 3.0-litre SOHC V6 (220 hp, 204 lb/ft)

Highlights

- Longer, wider and taller
- Plenty of options

now a 2.4-litre inline SOHC four-cylinder has been added and found on the entry-level ES. It produces 168 hp and 167 lb/ft of torque. The transmission is a CVT with an adaptive shift system that lets the driver shift "manually."

Fuel consumption is rated at 10.5/7.8L/100 km city/highway for the FWD and 10.6/8.0L/100 km for the AWD.

Pricing starts at \$24,998 for the ES FWD and \$26,998 for the ES AWD.

The mid-trim level LS and toptrim XLS Outlander models use the same 3.0-litre V6 with 220 hp and 204 lb/ft of torque. Drive is through a six-speed Sportronic automatic transmission with optional magnesium steering wheel paddle shifters on the XLS model.

Pricing for the LS starts at \$27,998 while the Outlander XLS starts at \$32,196. Tested here is the XLS with the \$4,000 optional Navigation and Entertainment Package. It builds on the Sun and Sound Package adding a GPS navigational system, 40-gigabyte hard disc drive, seven-inch front touch screen monitor, nine-inch monitor for the DVD system in the rear and a back-up camera.

In the still red-hot Canadian compact SUV/CUV segment Mitsubishi has a story to tell and a very good product in the Outlander.

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14 metro drive



The smart fortwo took the market by storm for the 2006 model with its tiny diesel engine and cuteness.

What a gas miser!

smart fortwo frugal but high maintenance

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
for Metro Canada



MODEL: smart fortwo,
2005-2006

VEHICLE TYPE: Compact
'Minicar'

**APPROXIMATE USED PRICE
RANGE:** \$8,000 to \$13,000

HISTORY/DESCRIPTION: The fortwo took the market by storm for the 2006 model year with its tiny diesel engine and stare-grabbing cuteness. The successor to this original is now on sale, with a gas engine.

The fortwo crosses boundaries of age and gender as a frugal and cheap-to-run car that can be enjoyed by anyone. As a maneuverable runabout or a cheeky weekend escape pod, it's appealing on numerous levels.

The big draw to the fortwo is its minimalist approach to fuel consumption and space-hogging. Get over the funny looks and lawn-equipment levels of performance, and you'll likely find the first-generation fortwo is as charming and sensible as a four-wheeled scooter with a roof.

The fortwo 'Pure' was the basic car, while the 'Pulse' or 'Passion' badge

were fitted to mid-level and loaded fortwos, respectively. Features included a CD player, air conditioning, power accessories, stability control and antilock brakes.

Mounted between the rear wheels, the heart of the fortwo consisted of an 800 cc turbo diesel engine with 40 horsepower and 73 lb.-ft. of torque.

WHAT OWNERS LIKE: Owners of the first-gen fortwo love the low fuel consumption and minimal refueling trips. Ease of parking and maneuverability are also among the cars most highly rated attributes. Build quality levels are appreciated, and many owners use comments like 'fun to drive' and 'eye catching' to sum up their experiences.

WHAT OWNERS HATE: The fortwo's transmission is its biggest weakness, and many owners describe it as jerky, abrupt and unrefined. Some owners wish for cruise control and tilt steering, and others wish for more power, too.

A more major owner complaint deals with servicing costs. Since smart ve-

hicles are sold and serviced by Mercedes Benz dealerships, labor rates can easily exceed \$100/hour.

COMMON ISSUES: Be sure the air conditioner is in proper working order on a test drive, and check for any 'check engine' lights, too. The latter could indicate numerous problems with the diesel emissions system or the engine itself — so be sure the light isn't illuminated.

Check for yucky mildew or moisture on the carpeting in the driver footwell, as a leaky seal could let water into the cabin. This is an easy and cheap fix.

THE VERDICT: The fortwo may have above-average maintenance costs, but issues look fairly minor and fuel costs are near nil.

Second Gear

AutoPilot

Mike Goetz

Read this week's column at metronews.ca/autopilot

Website reveals decade's worst

LIST With 2010 model year vehicles already on dealer lots, U.S.-based Cars.com editors reminisced on the good, the bad and the ugly of the past decade to compile their top ten worst cars of the decade.

Here are some of them in no particular order:

Pontiac Aztek (2001-2005): The Aztek was criticized

for the duration of its life for its ghastly styling.

Jaguar X-Type (2002-2008): In the early 2000s, the class of entry-level luxury cars was growing. Wanting in, Jaguar came out with the X-Type. The X-Type was a too-small, not-so-sporty sedan with all-wheel drive that was hamstrung by some of

the forewarned quality issues.

Toyota Echo (2000-2005): The Echo subcompact's high seating position and center-mounted instrument panel were two well-intentioned features that were summarily rejected by consumers.

FROM CARGUIDE

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Metro Workology exclusive: Skilled Trades

For the month of September, Metro's Workology section will be focusing on the extremely lucrative and soon to be booming employment sector of skilled trades. Be sure to read Workology and metronews.ca/work every day.

15

Workology

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Soccer team suspended

Carleton University gave its entire women's soccer team a two-game suspension after a rookie initiation party involving "excessive alcohol" and "embarrassing" drinking games left one intoxicated player in hospital. Carleton's athletics director says the entire team breached the code of conduct set out by the athletics department.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

The nuts and bolts of carpentry

Skilled Trades

JON TATTRE
for Metro Canada



The skilled trades crucial to building homes — carpentry and painting — are in huge demand. While would-be tradespeople learn on the job in some fields, studying at college and doing an apprenticeship might give others an edge.

The Nova Scotia Community College offers a range of trades courses, including

carpentry and painting/decorating. Dean Dorr teaches carpentry at NSCC and says the demand is high for qualified carpenters; the course itself has a year-long waiting list.

"They're not coming out of here as full-blown carpenters, but they are coming out with a good base knowledge to build on," he says.

"A lot of them, as soon as they're done school, they have jobs lined up. If you can't find work as a carpenter, you're not looking."

The two-year course gives students a basic tool box. They perfect their trade in a two- or three-

year paid apprenticeship after graduation. Dorr says classes in the first year cover the basics, taking people who may know nothing about carpentry and giving them a solid foundation in the tools and techniques of the trade.

"The first-year instructors start with a test that goes from as easy as two plus two to figuring out the volume of a cylinder to get a feel for where everyone is at," Dorr says. The second year focuses on more complex projects like circular stairs, unequal pitch and intersecting hip grooves. Mandatory work terms give students a chance to

try their new skills and make useful work contacts.

"When they finish the second year, they are credited with 2,000 hours toward their apprenticeship. They then go out and work in industry," Dorr says. This two-year on-the-job training fills out their education with things like timber and roof framing, preparing them to become journeymen carpenters, the highest rank.

For painters, many start with companies like College Pro and learn as they go. Some companies expressly recruit untrained staff and include a teaching as part of the job. Vancouver Island's Home Painting Pro promises a "comprehensive training program" to new recruits. It asks only for a good attitude, a phone and transport.

Formal training as a painter/decorator can be

hard to come by, but Newfoundland's Academy Canada offers such a program. After students acquire the basics of the trade, they can work toward becoming journeymen painter/decorators after graduation.

For more of the Skilled Trades exclusive series check Workology frequently or stop by: metronews.ca/work



Skilled trades work in carpentry is easy to find, according to one expert.

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Despite concerns about influenza A (H1N1), also known as swine flu, and drug-related crime, Mexico took four of 10 spots on a list of top fall destinations booked through Travel Leaders. Cancun was No. 2, Riviera Maya was No. 3, cruises to Mexico were No. 7 and Playa del Carmen was No. 10. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Travel

UNDERGROUND

A river runs through it

If you've ever tried to navigate the London Underground at length, you may have discovered the system isn't as simple as its colourful, iconic map would suggest. And the price of arriving at the wrong destination? A lot of walking, stair-climbing and explaining to ticket collectors why you bought the incorrect fare. So it's with trepidation that we note the new Underground maps are inexplicably missing the River Thames, a rather key piece of the city's geography. Next time we visit, we'll be hunting down an old map to bring along. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

TRAVELDESK@METRONEWS.CA

5 hotels with holy provenance

EMMA E. FORREST
Metro World News



You won't find a party atmosphere when you stay overnight at a convent or monastery, but you sure can't knock the experience for novelty value.

Many such institutions offer plain but clean rooms or dormitory style accommodation, although don't expect cable TV or a Michelin-starred room service menu. Some may even expect you to join in daily



A view of the wine cellar at the Convento do Espinheiro in Evora, Portugal.

others are now luxurious five-star retreats that benefit from the beauty of the building and surroundings. Here's our guide to the hotels and hostels that could be the answer to your holiday prayers.

Convento do Espinheiro, Evora, Portugal

What was once a convent visited by royalty has been transformed into a super luxurious retreat, making splendid use of the building's stunning features. There's been a convent in this location just outside the UNESCO town of Evora in the rustic surroundings of the Alentejo region of Portugal since 1458.

prayer sessions or impose evening curfews, which is not ideal if you're looking for a clubbing holiday. But not all holy hotels are austere and guilt-commanding; some are upbeat and wholesome health farms,

Read more on [page 17](#) »

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*Book by September 26, 2009 (11:59 MT). Other departure cities and dates available, prices may be slightly higher. Price is per guest, based on double adult occupancy in a standard room. Taxes and fees not included. Advance booking required. Offer limited and subject to availability. Prices are accurate at the time of printing. Offer is non-refundable and non-transferable. New bookings only. No group rates or other discounts apply. Excludes events/activities separately priced. †Tickets are for one Theme Park per day and must be used within 14 days of first use. ‡Transfers must be booked during the booking flow in order to ensure you have a reservation. **Everyone in the room must be on the same package and ticket options. Disney Quick-Service Dining Plan excludes alcoholic beverages and children ages 3-9 must choose from children's menu if available. See westjetvacations.com for details. As to Disney artwork/properties: ©Disney KIDS FLY FREE (KFF) offer valid for one free child ages 2-17 per one paying adult of 18 years or older. Children's ages will be verified against identification presented for travel. KFF is not valid with any other promotional airfare offer. KFF refers to base fare on select non-stop routes to Orlando only; all taxes and fees for free airfare are still due and payable by guest. Offer valid for bookings made between August 27 and September 26, 2009 for travel between September 27 and December 17, 2009. Space is limited at the KFF promotional price and is based on availability. Prices and rules subject to change without notice and other restrictions may apply. All terms and conditions of WestJet Vacations packages apply.

Southern belle

The Carnival Fantasy will homeport in Charleston, S.C. year-round beginning in May. The 2,056-passenger Carnival Cruise Lines ship will make five-, six and seven-day voyages from South Carolina to the Bahamas and Key West, Fla. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

travel 17

Continued from page 16

Nowadays the lodgings have been transformed into majestic suites and a gourmet restaurant is located in what used to be the wine cellar.

There are wine-tasting sessions in the cloisters and a beautiful church — covered in hand painted tiles and gold engravings — that holds monthly mass as well as occasional weddings and christenings.

The Convento has just opened its fabulously hip modern wing with rooms featuring contemporary art and designer furniture, and in the spacious but manicured garden there's a pool area that wouldn't look out of place in Miami. From about \$360; conv.entodospinheiro.com.

Marienkron Abbey & Hotel, Mönchhof, Austria

Since the 1970s, the Sisters of the Cistercian Order have balanced their daily prayers with a running a full hydrotherapy resort. These dynamic sisters offer a full wellbeing retreat at their convent, with upbeat fitness classes, medical diagnoses, aromatherapy massages, Tibetan medita-



The Restaurante Divinus at the Convento do Espinheiro.

tions sessions, and vigorous runs and bike rides round their substantial grounds. From about \$98 for full board; see marienkron.at.

Le Couvent D'Herepian & Benoit, Provence, France

This 17th century convent, at the edge of the regional park of the Langue-

doc area in France, has been thoughtfully transformed into a luxury boutique hotel with spa. Nearby, Garrigae Resorts has also transformed a monastery into a resort with holiday homes in the heart of the former friary. From about \$190; garrigae-resorts.com.

Convento do Carmo, Salvador, Brazil

The Brazilian city of Salvador is the heart of the country's mysterious Candomble religion, but this monastery was built by an order of Carmelite Friars in 1586. Now, it's the first luxury historic hotel in Brazil, and part of the Por-

tuguese Pousadas chain — which painstakingly and tastefully transforms castles, palaces, convents and monasteries into unique hotels. From about \$280; visit pestana.com for further information.

Foresteria Venezia, Venice, Italy

This is a cheap way of staying in the heart of Venice with a view over the canal. Run by the Methodist church, and a stone's throw from the central square of St. Mark's, the accommodations might be basic but you can't argue with the location.

The dorms are ideal for

families, and there are doubles with en suite bathrooms for couples. Save here and you can splurge on a ride on an iconic gondola through the city. From about \$35, including breakfast; see www.foresteriavenezia.it.

DAY TRIPS

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18 travel

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Parisians and tourists gather on the Champ de Mars, near the Eiffel Tower in Paris, for a game of petanque and a glass of pastis. They connected via EnjoYourParis.com, a site that provides a way for visitors to get a taste of Parisian life.

Website uncovers the friendly side of Paris

A cure for Parisians' brusque, haughty reputation may be at hand. Take a website, add a hint of anise-based pastis liqueur, a game of petanque and international travellers ready to mingle.

Two young entrepreneurs are introducing visitors to Paris life à la française. On a recent evening, they brought out the pastis, some water to mix it with, fruit juice and Coca-Cola for an international happy hour al fresco. With the Eiffel Tower in the background, people opened snacks and bottles and started chatting.

Remi Brichant, 25, and Guillaume Giler, 24, launched a website in May that organizes social events, EnjoYourParis.com. The idea came from a personal travel experience. When Giler studied abroad in Australia a few years ago, he was put in touch with a local student who showed him around his new campus and introduced him to people.

Brichant and Giler thought Paris should have a similar service and decided to take the concept further by creating special events where international visitors could meet Parisians to talk, share and just have fun. In a few months, some 600 members signed up.

"In Paris, there are so

many foreigners, and Parisians are known to be difficult to meet," Giler said.

As the sun set and the evening light grew pink, a group of approximately 20 people formed around the table, introducing themselves to one another, mostly in English or French. Aurélie Bernos, 25, poured drinks. She grew up in Paris and lived in Australia for a year while in school.

"It's fun, there are always new people," she said.

She brought along a work colleague, Fabien Huett, 28, from southern France, who lived in Paris for eight years. Like the participants from faraway lands, he says it has been difficult for him to meet Parisians.

Marcus Grambau, 24, was on a two-month visit in Paris from Melbourne. "I

didn't want to spend two months here alone," he said. The first event Grambau attended was on Bastille Day.

For the national holiday, Brichant hosted a party at his parents' apartment, which has a view of the Eiffel Tower. When the fireworks set off from the Parisian landmark, the international group had one of the best seats in the city to watch the show.

"If I hadn't joined the group, I would have been standing in the crowd like

Good to know

- Sign up at fr.enjoyyourparis.com and fill out the questionnaire. Check what interests you — cultural, food, or nighttime events are some of the categories. Once logged in, you'll be able to see the calendar and who has signed up. Brichant and Giler also send out a weekly email newsletter to let people know what's coming up.

everyone else," Grambau said. Since meeting up with the EnjoYourParis.com crowd, he's made friends with three French people and regularly meets them for drinks and dinner.

On the pastis evening, Grambau and the rest of the group played petanque, France's version of bocce ball. Brichant and Giler randomly drew names to decide what the teams would be.

"We try to put them with people they don't know," Brichant explained.

On one side of the field, Perrine Le Guern, a 24-year-old pastry cook from the northwestern city of Rennes, teamed up with Milli Bruck, 26, who was visiting from Germany. Bernos teamed with Harry Krakhofer, 23, visiting from Austria.

With the help of Le Guern, who translated into English, Parisian Augustin Fabre explained the rules. Brichant and Giler kept track of scores, but the focus was clearly not on who won. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Hasselhoff denies drunk allegation

David Hasselhoff is looking to correct rumours that he was taken to the hospital after collapsing drunk over the weekend. His lawyer said Hasselhoff had a bad reaction to a medication, according to Exposay. **METRO WORLD NEWS**

19

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONWS.CA

On the move

Matt Damon is moving to California so he can be closer to Ben Affleck — both famous actors are currently raising young daughters.

FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK



Trailer Park memories

Looking back at the hit TV show's funniest moments

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada



Drug dealing, faking disability, excessive drinking, gunfights, pepperoni, and a shopping-cart stealing racket.

Who could have guessed that these would be running gags on the most popular Canadian comedy series of the last decade? In 2001, Showcase took a risk by funding a weird mockumentary about a group of loveable low-level criminals called the Trailer Park Boys.

Today Ricky, Julian, and Bubbles are Canadian pop culture icons. The recent release of the gang's latest movie Trailer Park Boys:

Countdown To Liquor Day is the final entry in the franchise (for now).

So it seems like a good time to look back at some of the funniest moments in the history of The Trailer Park Boys.

1) Ricky Kidnaps Rush: Perhaps the most beloved episode of the series (for good reason) has got to be the one in which Ricky kidnaps Alex Lifeson from Rush when Bubbles is unable to get tickets to his concert. This led to a private concert for the boys and also helped transform the cult series into a nationwide phenomena.

Best Line: "This isn't kidnapping, I'm borrowing you for a little bit." Ricky (while escorting Alex Life-

Movie feature

son at gunpoint).

2) Feeding A Dog Brownies: In one of the finest episodes from the first season, Ricky attempts to babysit his daughter and a neighbour's dog with disastrous results. Ricky ends up getting shot by his daughter and accidentally feeding the dog a tray of "special" brownies. The result was a hilarious and boundary-breaking 20 minutes that helped set the tone for the rest of the series.

Best Line: "The dog is on dope, you guys are intelligent." Sam Losco (veterinarian).

3) Know what I'm sayin': One of the more

beloved secondary characters on the series has got to be J-Roc, the incredibly white leader of the trailer park's hip-hop community who fancies himself the next Eminem. The problem is that he doesn't quite have the same skill or connections, but does have an irritating tendency to spawn his own catch phrases and run them into the ground. None of which are quite as entertaining as his inability to end any sentence without adding a "know what I'm sayin'?"

Best Line: "Why you always counting my 'know-what-I'm-sayin's? Are you takin' a know-what-I'm-census?" J-Roc.

4) Conky: In Season 4, the series had reached a



Trailer Park Boys: Countdown To Liquor Day opened Friday.

new level of popularity and was awarded a larger budget. As a result, creator Mike Clattenburg and co. made a season filled with ambitious and surreal plotlines that expanded the possibilities of the show. None of these new developments were as bizarre or memorable as Bubbles' hand puppet Conky that seemed to take over the show's most lovable personality. A fan favorite and

a series highlight.

Best Line: "Those were excellent negotiation tactics you used, Patrick Swayze." Conky.

5) The Hash Driveway: In Season 5, the boys decided to conceal a massive collection of hash by melting it down into the world's most potent driveway.

Nuff said.

Best Line: All of them.

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20 entertainment

Man with a message

President Barack Obama is back doing what many believe he does best — communicating his message via high-profile television appearances.

His latest media blitz, which culminated Monday night in his first presidential appearance on the Late Show With David Letterman, has been aimed at promoting health-care reform directly to the American people in the waning days of a summer of blistering nationwide debate.

Obama's appearance on Letterman, the first ever for a sitting president, was apparently meant to reach those who managed to avoid seeing him on the political talk-show circuit Sunday, when he appeared on no fewer than five different broadcasts.

Not everyone was greeting Obama's media blitz with open arms — notoriously right-wing news outlet Fox News was left out of the Sunday morning ratings bonanza when it was denied a presidential interview for Fox News Sunday.

"They are the biggest bunch of crybabies I have dealt with in my 30 years in Washington," Chris Wallace, the show's host, com-



President Barack Obama is pictured with host David Letterman on The Late Show with David Letterman Monday night.

"Canadians don't seem to mind it."

U.S. President Barack Obama on Canada's health-care system

plained to colleague Bill O'Reilly on his show, The O'Reilly Factor.

"We figured Fox would rather show So You Think You Can Dance than broadcast an honest discussion about health insurance reform," White House spokesman Josh Earnest told ABC News about the reason Fox News wasn't offered an interview.

Obama's 15-minute interviews ran on CNN, CBS, NBC, ABC and the Spanish-

language Univision. Conducted from the White House in the Roosevelt Room, the president was peppered with questions not just on health-care reform, but also on his picks for the World Series, the situation in Afghanistan and the role his race is playing in the attacks being levelled against him by his conservative opponents.

On Letterman on Monday night, Obama joked about suggestions that vitriolic opposition to his health-care reform plans are fuelled by racism.

"First of all, I think it's important to realize that I was actually black before the election," Obama said to guffaws from Letterman and his audience.

Talking about socialized medicine, Letterman remarked that comparisons have been made to Great Britain and Canada, a notion that panics critics, but to him, doesn't seem so bad.

"Canadians don't seem to mind it," Obama noted as a raucous cheer of support went up from the studio audience. "Seem to be some Canadians here," Obama remarked.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Two million buy new Brown book

SALES Dan Brown's new novel has passed the two-million mark.

Doubleday announced yesterday that sales for The Lost Symbol topped two million copies in its first week.

The total, for the United States, Britain and Canada, includes hardcover, audio and e-book sales. The Lost Symbol came out Sept. 15 with an initial print run of five million books that since was raised to 5.6 million.

The book is Brown's first since The Da Vinci Code, an international phenomenon published in 2003. The Da Vinci Code has sold more than 40 million copies worldwide.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

I Killed My Mother Canada's shot at a foreign film Oscar

AWARDS The breakout movie from a rising Quebec director has been chosen as Canada's bid for an Oscar in the best foreign-language film category.

Telefilm says it chose Xavier Dolan's wrenching family drama, I Killed my Mother, (J'ai tue ma mere) from 18 eligible films.

It's the latest accolade for the 20-year-old Dolan, who wrote, directed and stars in the semi-autobiographical film that drew raves at Cannes earlier this year.

The film focuses on 16-year-old Hubert Minel, and his explosive clashes with his mother.

Ninety-six countries have been invited to submit their top film for Academy Award consideration.

A final list of five foreign-language films will be

Past nominations

• Canadian films that have snagged nominations in the best foreign language Oscar category include Deepa Mehta's Water, in 2006, and three films by Denys Arcand, including 1986's The Decline of the American Empire, 1989's Jesus of Montreal, and 2003's The Barbarian Invasions, which won the award.

announced when the Oscar nominations are revealed on Feb. 2, 2010, with the hardware handed out March 7.

Canada's submission last year was Benoit Pilon's period piece, The Necessities of Life (Ce qu'il faut pour vivre).

THE CANADIAN PRESS

In brief

THEATRE There will be more than a little star power in the upcoming Broadway revival of A Little Night Music, the Stephen Sondheim-Hugh Wheeler musical. Catherine Zeta-Jones and



Catherine Zeta-Jones

Angela Lansbury will share top billing in the production which begins preview performances Nov. 24 and opens Dec. 13.

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Klum expected to give birth soon

Heidi Klum reportedly sat out the Ann Taylor fashion show out of fear of labour pains, according to Babble. The very pregnant Klum is expected to give birth to her fourth child any day now. **METRO WORLD NEWS**



Locklear reprises Melrose role

TV Heather Locklear is reprising her signature role as scheming Amanda Woodward on its updated version of *Melrose Place*, the CW network announced Tuesday.

Locklear will make her debut appearance Nov. 17 on the prime-time soap. The revived *Melrose Place* premiered earlier this month.

The 47-year-old Locklear joined the original *Melrose Place* in 1993, at the end of the first season. She stayed throughout the series' seven-year run on the Fox network. As Amanda, she was the ruthless head of the D&D advertising agency.

Before *Melrose*, Lock-

lear had been a regular on the cop show *T.J. Hooker* and the glamorous melodrama *Dynasty*.

She later co-starred with Michael J. Fox on the sitcom *Spin City*.

She will now be joining original *Melrose* castmates Laura Leighton, Thomas Calabro, Josie Bisset and Daphne Zuniga in the CW's updated version.

No details were released on how many appearances Locklear will make on the series.



Locklear

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Smith's doctors warned

Three pharmacists cautioned against drugs, say affidavits



According to unsealed affidavits, three pharmacists warned now-deceased reality TV star Anna Nicole Smith's doctors about over-prescribing drugs following her son's death.

A Los Angeles pharmacist told reality TV star Anna Nicole Smith's internist that the drugs the internist prescribed to the model after her son died were "pharmaceutical suicide," according to unsealed documents written by state officials.

Smith's doctors were warned about prescription drugs by three pharmacists, according to unsealed affidavits obtained Monday by the Los Angeles Times.

The pharmacist refused to fill the prescriptions and later recalled thinking, "They are going to kill her with this."

The documents are part of an investigation of the role that Smith's doctors, psychiatrist Christine Eroshevich and internist Sandeep Kapoor, had in her overdose death in February 2007.

The physicians and Smith's boyfriend and attorney Howard K. Stern pleaded not guilty May 13

to conspiring to illegally provide her with controlled substances.

A preliminary hearing is scheduled for next month.

In court papers filed last week, prosecutors said they plan to call the model's bodyguard and Larry Birkhead, the father of her daughter, Dannielynn, as witnesses.

The documents also cite evidence that both physicians crossed professional boundaries by having sexual contact with their famous patient.

Calls to attorneys representing Eroshevich and Kapoor were not immediately returned Monday.

The first request for drugs for the former Playboy Playmate came five days after her son died and asked for two sedatives, 300 tablets of methadone, a muscle relaxer, an anti-inflammatory drug and four bottles of a strong painkiller.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kenya's Style

Kenya Hunt

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metronews.ca/movies

In brief

NEW SERIES A Vancouver TV writer is hoping to launch a new series that will focus on the trials and tribulations of the war in Afghanistan. Combat Hospital, the show's working title, plans to focus its attention on the Role 3 Multi-national Hospital at Kandahar Airfield. The hospital employs doctors and nurses from several nations and provides advanced medical care. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
9/23/09	31	31	31	ABC	News Center 5	ABC Wild News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	Dancing With the Stars	Modern Family	Cougar Town	Eastwick
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea	Dragon's Den (HDTV)	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N)	Dancing With the Stars	The Beautiful Life: TBL		Eastwick
	11	11	11	CBC	Jeopardy! (N)	La force	The Tudors (DVS)	The Tudors (DVS)	CBC News: The National	CBC News: The National	The Hour	
	2	2	2	CBC-F	Pyramid (SC)	Virginie (SC)	L'Épicerie (N)	Le Moment de vérité (SC)	Hauts	Criminal Minds (N)	CSI: NY	
	32	32	32	CBS	WBZ News (N)	Evening News	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Old Christine	Gary Unmarr		
	69	69	69	CFTM	TVA nouvelles	Le Cercle (SC)	Spécial bloops TVA	Destinées (HDTV) (SC)	Dr. House (HDTV) (SC)	News Final (N)		
	6	6	6	CHIF	Entertainment	ET Canada	Melrose Place "Grand"	Bones (HDTV PA) (N)	Glee "Preggers" (N)			
	9	9	9	CJCH	etalk	Dance	CSI: NY "Epilogue" (N)	America's Next Top Model (N)	Criminal Minds (N)			
	10	10	10	ELTV	All Access	Atlantic Film Festival Notice Board						
	36	36	36	FOX	Seinfeld	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	So You Think You Can Dance	Glee "Preggers" (N)		
prime time	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Hollywood	Extra (N)	Law & Order: SVU	Jay Leno Show		
	29	29	29	NW	World News	Business	CBC News	Fortune	CBC News: Tonight (N)	CBC News: The National	Spies	
	4	4	4	PBS-B	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Greater Boston	Ask This Old	Worldfocus	Chasing Churchill: In Search	Chasing Churchill: In Search	Great Lodges-Parks	
	35	35	35	PBS-D	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Business Rpt.	Worldfocus	Great Lodges-Parks	Distraction (SC)	Lie to Me: Crimes et Men	Wipe Out	
	68	68	68	TQS	Guerra clans	Wipe Out	450 chemin	Rire et délire	After Hours	Market Call	Squeeze Play	
	23	23	23	BNN	Business News	Headline	Market Call Tonight	Campbell Brown (N)	19th Hole (N)	Top 10	Golf	
	18	18	18	CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer	Lou Dobbs Tonight	The Golf Fix	Golf Videos	MLB Baseball Baltimore Orioles at Toronto Blue Jays. From Rogers Centre in Toronto.			
	54	54	54	GOLF	Golf Central	Top 10	Connected W-Prime Time	(6) Morency	Covers Experts			
	52	52	52	RSE	Connected W-Prime Time							
	55	55	55	SCOR	(6) Morency	Covers Experts	RaceNight					
news	45	45	45	SPD	Unifone Whips	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Amer. Thunder	Pinks Outtakes	Pass Time (N)	Pass Time (N)	Wrecked
	53	53	53	TSN	Off the Record	SportsCentre	Top 10-Olympic Moments	2009 World Series of Poker	2009 World Series of Poker	SportsCentre		
	43	43	43	FAM	Zoe 101	Life Derek	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek
	44	44	44	TOON	Jimmy Two	Johnny Two	Scoby-Doo	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad
	26	26	26	TREE	Timmy Time	3rd and Bird	Backyardigans	Night Grdn	Max & Ruby	Franklin	Little Bear	Bucket-Dinos
	27	27	27	TYV	iCarly	Drake & Josh	That's Weird	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz
	16	16	16	A&E	CSI: Miami "Dead Zone"	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	Dog the Bounty Hunter		Dog the Bounty Hunter			
	70	70	70	APTN	APTN National News (N)	Investigates	Reel Insights	Wings-Canada	Canadian Geographic			
	50	50	50	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live (Live)			Menace II Society *** (1993, Drama)	Tyrin Turner.			
	37	37	37	BRVO	Wind at My Back	The Achievers	Bravo/Videos	Arts & Minds	O'Reagan File	Wingfield	Port Portraits	Allan King
sports	25	25	25	CMT	Hottest Men of Country	Funnest Home Videos	Reba	Reba	Accord-Jim	Accord-Jim	Home Improve.	Red Green
	49	49	49	COM	Just for Laughs	Air Force	22 Minutes	Copier Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Police Videos
	153	153	153	COURT	Struggle for Justice	World's Wildest Police Videos	Day Planet (N)	Pitchmen "Smells Like Gold"	Mighty Ships	Property Virgin	Hide Potential	House Hunters
	38	38	38	DISC	How It's Made	Qubit	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Hide Potential	Ice Road Truckers	Exped. Africa	Degrassi: TNG
	34	34	34	HGTV	Holmes-Homes	Holmes-Homes	Expedition Africa (N)	Life After People	America's Best Dance Crew	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Gene Simmons
	46	46	46	HIST	Outlaw Bikers (HDTV)	One Tree Hill	The Daily Fix	(8:15) Messages Deleted (2009, Suspense)	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman	Ghost Hunters
	17	17	17	MM	Making His Band	mtm10.ca						
	19	19	19	MMM	mtm10.ca							
	201	201	201	M1	(6:15) Personal Effects							
	48	48	48	OLN	Mantracker	Ghost Hunters	Family Guy	Family Guy	Law & Order: SVU	The Office	The Office	Road Trip
family	51	51	51	PEACH	The Office	Name Is Earl	Family Guy	Family Guy	Law & Order: SVU	The Office	The Office	Road Trip
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:10) In the Line of Fire *** (1993)							
	67	67	67	RDI	RDI monde	RDI économie	24 Hours on 60 minutes	The Guard (HDTV)	Found.	Paradise Falls	Bones	
	39	39	39	SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	Rich Poor	Rich Poor	Nearly Dead	Newlywed	Newlywed	In Laws
	40	40	40	SLICE	Skin Deep	Skin Deep	Stargate Atlantis	(DVS)	Star Trek: Voyager	Torchwood "Sleeper"	Supernatural	
	47	47	47	SPACE	Stargate SG-1 (DVS)	CSI: Crime Scene Instvgt.	CSI: Crime Scene Instvgt.	UFC Unleashed (HDTV)	UFC Unleashed (HDTV) (N)	Uit. Fighter		
	14	14	14	SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scene Instvgt.	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)	I Didn't Know I Was Pregnant	Your Kid Ate What?	ET Canada	What Happen?
	97	97	97	STAR	etalk	Restorer Guy	Stager	Stunt Stars "12 Rounds"	Sagan Rencontre avec l'auteur de Bonjour Tristesse.	Keeping Up	Foot in Grave	Doc Martin
	21	21	21	TLC	What Not to Wear	King	King					
	56	56	56	34 TROP	Project Runway Canada	Devoir d'enquête						
cable variety	20	20	20	TVS	Que. champion	Journal de Fr2						
	28	28	28	V	Emily of New Moon	Murder, She Wrote	Judging Amy	Old Christine	Friends	Friends	Grocery Bag	Younger
	60	60	60	97 VIVA	Da Vinci's Inquest	Style by Jury						
	22	22	22	W	House-Sell	Evening News	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	America's Next Top Model (N)	The Beautiful Life: TBL		
	251	251	251	WGN	Be-Millionaire							

critics' corner

Eastwick

There's a saying that God is in the details, but ABC hopes the devil is in the ratings with this new TV series adapted from the John Updike novel and 1987 movie hit "The Witches of Eastwick." Lindsay Price, Rebecca Romijn and Jaime Ray Newman star as three women in a New England village who are drawn together by a handsome newcomer (Paul Gross, "Due South") who unleashes unique powers in them. 11 PM on ABC ASN



Dragon's Den

Enter the dragons — again — to revisit the show's most recent incarnation and discuss what they liked and disliked about the pitches and products they reviewed. They also dish some dirt on one another as they reveal how they spent their money. This special "Anatomy of the Pitch" episode also includes the announcement of the Arm-chair Dragon winner, who gets \$75,000. 8 PM on CBC

Mercy

Try to imagine "ER" with occasional dashes of the zany "Scrubs," and you have a pretty good handle on this new dramedy, which stars Taylor Schilling as Veronica, one of three nurses at the heart of the action. And she has plenty of personal action going on, with a controlling hubby (Diego Klattenhoff) at home and a charming doc (James Tupper) from her Iraq tour on the job. 9 PM on NBC

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- 9 Jay-Z Ft Kanye West & Rihanna - Run This Town
- 8 Boys Like Girls - Love Drunk
- 7 Miley Cyrus - Party In The USA
- 6 Cobra Starship - Good Girls Go Bad
- 5 Lola - High Heels
- 4 Jay Sean Ft Lil Wayne - Down
- 3 David Guetta Ft Akon - Sexy Chick
- 2 Justin Bieber - One Time
- 1 Jason Derulo - Whatcha Say

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Mel Gibson's girlfriend Oksana Grigorieva might be a mom-to-be, but she's not a bride-to-be, people.com reports. On British GMTV Tuesday, she said, "we have no plans to marry whatsoever ... I haven't thought about it — we haven't spoken about it." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Celebrity Buzz

Suri's girly sartorial habits

LITTLE ADULT My, how she's growing!

Suri Cruise, 3, retained her chic child status Monday, sporting a pair of high heels while shopping with mom Katie Holmes in Boston (where Tom Cruise is shooting his new action comedy, *Wichita*), us-magazine.com reports.

"Suri's very much like her mother," Cruise told *Hello!* magazine last year. "She will not wear trousers, only dresses. I put a pair of trousers on her and turn and leave the room and straight

away the trousers are off and a dress is on instead! "The other day, Kate showed her some gold-coloured sneakers thinking she might like to wear them, and she looked at them and said, 'Oh mommy, these are lovely, but they're boy shoes,'" he added. "She's sweet, but she's very strong-willed — just like her mother."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Jessica devastated without Daisy

LIFE PARTNER After losing her beloved mutt Daisy to a coyote attack last week, friends fear Jessica Simpson may be at the lowest point of her life, people.com reports.

"Daisy was her baby," one of them told people.com. "It's going to put her into a tailspin. It will put her into the worst place ever."

But another source close to the actress says she's coping better than her friends may realize.

"She's really upset, but she's not spiralling out of control by any means," this source said. "She'll get through this but it is like losing a family member."

Daisy was perhaps one of the most pampered pets

in Hollywood. Simpson fed Daisy steak, not dog food, and referred to herself as "Daisy's Mommy." When leaving the house, Simpson left on the air-conditioning for her dog; and when Daisy was sick, Simpson refused visitors so that they wouldn't wake Daisy. She threw Daisy birthday parties, and when she talked about having a "girls' night in" with a video, she was talking about herself and

Daisy.

"Jessica has a very small inner circle," the friend said. "But she always had Daisy. Daisy gave her unconditional love."

And, unlike some of the men in her life, the friend added, "Daisy never betrayed her. Daisy was always there for her. This is serious. Jessica's heart is broken." Whenever she was out at night, Simpson called home and had

"someone put Daisy on the phone so she could say goodnight."

"Daisy ran the household," the friend said. "If Daisy didn't like you, you were gone. Sometimes if her regular hair and make-up people weren't available and Jessica had a sit-in, if Daisy didn't like them, they wouldn't be back."

When Simpson was having relationship problems, "she would cry herself to sleep at night, using Daisy as a pillow."

All of the sources agreed on one point: It's been a tough year for Jessica Simpson.

"I want her to catch a break," the first friend said. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



I still love the old Jon: Kate

PINING FOR THE PAST Kate Gosselin still loves Jon — but not the man she knows now, people.com reports.

"I miss Jon, the Jon I used to know," she told the audience at the Southern Women's Show in Charlotte, N.C., on Thursday.

She also opened up to the crowd of 700 about her failed marriage, adds usmagazine.com.

She revealed that the last year before

breakup, she and estranged husband Jon had considered moving from Wernersville, Pa. — where they own a \$1.1 million home — and

building a new pad in North Carolina. But the timing was bad.

"Our kids' school and our church kept us there," she said. "It was scary to move so far away."

When a woman told Gosselin she identifies with her because she recently split with her boyfriend, Gosselin told her, "I don't think you want to talk to me about boyfriends or breaking up."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Kevin picks bros for best men

PRE-WEDDING PLANS Kevin Jonas may not have set a wedding date yet, but the oldest Jonas Brother has one thing checked off his to-do list as he prepares to tie the knot with girlfriend Danielle Deleasa — he's chosen a best man, people.com reports.

Make that best men. "I decided that it's going to be both Joe and Nick," Kevin, 21, confirmed to People on the Toronto set of *Camp Rock 2: The Final Jam*. "Dani has an older and a younger sister, so it

works out really well. I can have two best men, and she can have two maids of honour."

Now that the situation has been settled, what do the two best men have planned for the bachelor party?

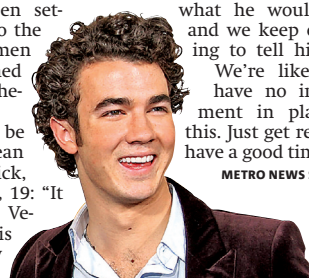
"It will be good, clean fun," says Nick, 17. Adds Joe, 19: "It won't be in Vegas. Vegas is not really

the ideal place. We are thinking somewhere even cooler and better."

According to Nick, "He will give us suggestions on what he would like and we keep on trying to tell him no."

We're like, "You have no involvement in planning this. Just get ready to have a good time."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Justin and Rihanna dating in secret?

ILLCIT ROMANCE Justin Timberlake looks set to break a million hearts after he allegedly began dating Rihanna in secret, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Timberlake turned up at The Emmys without his girlfriend Jessica Biel, and though he told the press

that Biel just had a cold, it's rumoured that the pair had split.

It's no secret that Timberlake and Rihanna

have been friends for a while now, but one source is claiming the two are more than friends. According to a source for Heatworld, "Justin and Rihanna have been seeing each other for the past few weeks. He is really into her and it's only a matter of time before he dumps Jessica." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



Can we change the subject?

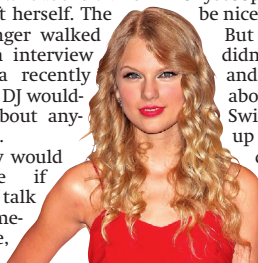
HOW RUDE No one is more tired of talking about Kanye West's interruption of Taylor Swift at the VMAs than Swift herself. The young singer walked out of an interview in Florida recently when the DJ wouldn't ask about anything else.

"I really would appreciate if we could talk about something else,

because I've asked you three times now," Swift pleaded, according to *Hollyscoop*. "I'm trying to be nice about it."

But when the DJ didn't get the point and kept asking about the incident, Swift calmly stood up and left the studio without saying another word.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Khloe set to marry Sunday

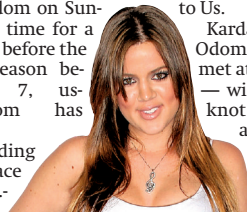
RUSH JOB Khloe Kardashian is not wasting time on wedding planning. The reality star will wed L.A. Laker Lamar Odom on Sunday, leaving time for a honeymoon before the Lakers preseason begins Oct. 7, us-magazine.com has confirmed.

The wedding will take place at the L.A.-

area home of music manager and Kardashian family friend, Irving Azoff, multiple sources confirm to us.

Kardashian, 25, and Odom, 29 — who met at a party in L.A. — will be tying the knot after only about a month of dating.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Celebrity tweets

Lindsay Lohan doesn't approve of Samantha Ronson's activities, Kirstie Alley is filling up her week, and Ashton Kutcher tries to get some perspective.

* @sevinnyne6126 Nice to see @samantharonson has found a party rather than being honest

* @kirstiealley I start tomorrow, dancing 2 hours a day.YAY...2 days a week. 2 days circuit training and swimming and 2 days hiking and biking..I'm READY!!

* @aplusk If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Yippy! metro's kooolest
The Best Halifax has to Offer

Metro News and 96.5 Kool FM want YOU to weigh in on the city's coolest places to eat, party, shop — you name it! Go to metronews.ca or kool965fm.ca to register your choice for this month's category: **Metro's Kooolest School!** One lucky player will win a prize pack valued at over \$100!

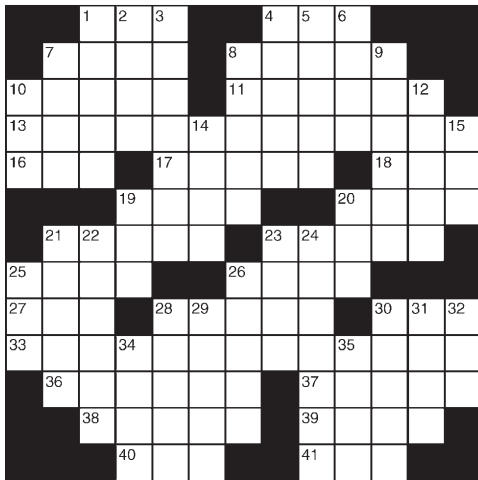
metro
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For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: metronews.ca/food

Take Five



ACROSS

- 1 Remuneration
- 4 — Aviv
- 7 Java neighbour
- 8 Subject
- 10 Bert's roomie
- 11 Left
- 13 "Good Golly Miss Molly" singer
- 16 Crucial
- 17 Denounces
- 18 Seek damages
- 19 Not so much
- 20 Rope material
- 21 Tolerate
- 23 Parliamentarians
- 25 Eager, plus
- 26 Cage components
- 27 Witty one
- 28 Feel one's way
- 30 Sprite
- 33 Horn blower of rhyme
- 36 Thelma's pal
- 37 O. Henry's specialty
- 38 Over and done with
- 39 California

- wine valley
- 40 Acquire
- 41 "Holy cow!"

DOWN

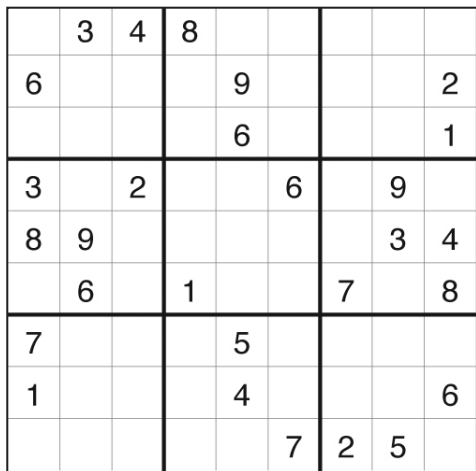
- 1 Dorm-raid prize
- 2 Settled down
- 3 Gave way
- 4 Poison
- 5 Grand tales
- 6 Stone (Suff.)
- 7 Spreadable cheese
- 8 Contract clauses
- 9 Stopped
- 10 Wapiti
- 12 Starr's gear
- 14 Facility
- 15 Passbook abbr.
- 19 Cover
- 20 Store-front sign abbr.
- 21 Use
- 22 Hallux
- 23 Slimming surgery, for short
- 24 Following orders
- 25 Piercing tool
- 26 Judicially clad

- 28 Move gracefully
- 29 Put back to zero
- 30 Run off to wed
- 31 Moth variety
- 32 Palin portrayer Tina
- 34 Mao Tse —
- 35 Highland hill-side

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

AMID	CBS	CAPO	4	7	2	9	1	6	8	5	3
BARE	ARE	ARID	8	5	9	2	7	3	6	4	1
EXAM	DATELINE		6	1	3	4	8	5	7	2	9
LINEDRY	AMASS		7	2	6	1	3	8	4	9	5
AYE	USE		9	3	5	6	4	2	1	7	8
PLANE	DRYRUNS		1	8	4	5	9	7	2	3	6
EON	SOL	FOE	2	4	8	3	5	1	9	6	7
RUNSOUT	AROSE		3	9	1	7	6	4	5	8	2
OWN	GNU		5	6	7	8	2	9	3	1	4
APACE	OUTBACK										
BACKDATE	BLUE										
LITE	HIS	ESPY									
ERST	ASS	ROSS									

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca



Metro Recipe of the Day



Cider Beef Stew

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 lbs (1 kg) beef stew meat, cut into 1-in. (2.5 cm) cubes
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) canola oil
- 3 cups (750 mL) apple cider or juice
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) cider vinegar
- 2 tsp (10 mL) salt, optional
- 1/4 to 1/2 tsp (1 to 2 mL) dried thyme
- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) pepper
- 3 medium potatoes, peeled and cubed
- 4 medium carrots, cut into 3/4-in. (2 cm) pieces
- 3 celery ribs, cut into 3/4-in. (2 cm) pieces
- 2 medium onions, cut into wedges
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) water

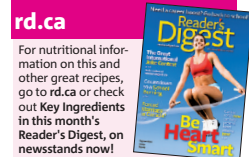
METHOD:

1. In Dutch oven, brown

beef on all sides in oil over medium-high heat; drain. Add cider, vinegar, salt if desired, thyme and pepper; bring to boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer 1 1/4 hours.

2. Add potatoes, carrots, celery and onions; return to boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer 30-35 minutes or until beef and vegetables are tender.
3. Combine flour and water until smooth; stir into stew. Bring to boil; cook and stir 2 minutes or until slightly thickened.

SERVES 8



Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Today's Mars-Jupiter link-up is full of potential, especially if you are the sort of Aries who acts fast and likes to be first.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Make sure you listen to both sides of the story you are about to be told. Be aware of all viewpoints.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Is a certain person's optimism justified? Maybe, maybe not, but what happens today will convince you that it is better to be positive in your outlook.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
Strive to make an impression on powerful people — even if you are the sort of Scorpio who does not like to draw attention to yourself.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Seek out people who know how to enjoy themselves and avoid those who seem to carry the weight of the world on their shoulders.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
There is precious little you cannot do today. With Jupiter, your ruler, linked to fiery Mars your energy and enthusiasm make all things possible.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
You may be behind in your work and you may have fallen short of your aims, but what of it? Life isn't just about earning a living and getting ahead.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
If you push your luck too far the powers that be will not be amused, and you won't be laughing either when you have to pay a penalty of some sort.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
The Sun, your ruler, and power planet Pluto form an explosive angle today, but you need to know what you are capable of.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
You need to have faith in people today, especially if you are one of those Aquarians who looks at the world as if it is hoping to cheat you.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
There is not much point trying to deny that you have made a mess of something because everyone can see the less than impressive results.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Today's Mars-Jupiter link-up will do wonders for your self-belief and you will most likely attempt something you were too afraid to try in the past.

WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

1. Rear blue birds or Toronto players (1)
2. Picket-line crossers' taxis (1)
3. Wed CNN talk-show host King (2)
4. More lowdown Indy 500 competitor (2)
5. Mr. Munster's Sunday church talks (2)
6. Devilish one primped (1)
7. Outlawing a cashier's laser reading (2)

Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like CAT and DOUBLE TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many syllables in each word.

This day in history

- SEPT. 23, 1845: The Knickerbockers Baseball Club, the first baseball team to play under modern rules, is founded in New York.
- SEPT. 23, 1846: Neptune is discovered by French astronomer Urbain Jean Joseph Le Verrier and British astronomer John Couch Adams; the discovery is verified by German astronomer Johann Gottfried Galle.
- SEPT. 23, 1889: Nintendo Koppai (Later Nintendo Company, Limited) is founded by Fusajiro Yamauchi to produce and market the playing card game Hanafuda.
- SEPT. 23, 1908: University of Alberta is founded.

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